

Remarks

The various parts of the Office Action (and other matters, if any) are discussed below under appropriate headings.

Allowable Subject Matter

The indicated allowability of claims 5, 9, 10, 15-19, 21, 30, 31, 33-35, 37-44, 46, 47 and 50-54 is noted with appreciation. Although exception is taken to the prior art rejections, the claims have been amended to place them in condition for allowance on the basis of the claims indicated to be allowable. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to include the feature of allowable claim 11 which has been cancelled. Claims 16 and 53 have been amended into independent form.

Election/Restriction

Claims 8 and 36 should also be allowed as they depend from an allowable claim.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, request is made for timely issuance of a notice of allowance.

The absence in this reply of any comments on any other contentions set forth in the Office Action should not be construed to be an acquiescence therein. Rather, no comment is needed since the rejections should be withdrawn for at least the foregoing reasons.

Respectfully submitted,

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